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SRI K. R. VISWANATHAN :—" Sir, in view of the fact that pandits with only oriental titles were getting a higher scale of pay than that of the secondary grade teachers in pre-independence days and in view of the fact that the scale has now been fixed at a rate lower than that of the secondary grade teachers by the previous Congress Government and in view of the fact that regional languages are now supposed to be treated as first languages, will this Government consider the advisability of raising the pay of these pandits at least to the level where it was, if not more? "

THE HON. DR. M. V. KRISHNA RAO :—" Sir, the pandits are expected to possess certain qualifications. Where they satisfy the rule regarding qualifications, they get the revised scale now in force."

SRI K. VINAYAKAM :—" Sir, responding to the request of the Hon. the Minister for Education I am giving him the specific instance of the Corporation of Madras. The Corporation has not given effect to the revised scales of pay to the Tamil pandits. Will the Hon. Minister be pleased to enquire into the matter and redress the grievances of the teachers? "

THE HON. DR. M. V. KRISHNA RAO :—" The matter will be considered."

Supply of power to Upper Pennar Project work from Rayadrug.

* 393 Q.—

3-50 a.m. MR. SPEAKER :—" As the hon. Member Sri S. Narayanappa is not present, the question and answer will be printed in the proceedings."

SRI S. NARAYANAPPA : Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether any investigation has started regarding the supply of power to Upper Pennar Project work from Rayadrug (via) Kalyandrug and Kambadur; and

(*b*) if so, when the power will be supplied to Upper Pennar Project work?

THE HON. SRI N. RANGA REDDI :—" (*a*) The answer is in the negative.

" (*b*) Does not arise."

Representations from the Malabar newspaper editors regarding power supply.

* 394 Q.—SRI K. P. GOPALAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government received any representation to stop the cut in electricity by representatives of the Malabar newspaper editors ; and

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(*b*) if so, what action has been taken in this matter by the Government?"

THE HON. SRI N. RANGA REDDI :—" (*a*) The answer is in the affirmative.

" (*b*) The Government have since exempted all printing presses in the hydro electric areas, including those in Malabar district engaged in printing daily and weekly newspapers from the power cut in force, so far as consumption of electricity for printing the dailies and weeklies only is concerned."

Service conditions of clerks under panchayats.

* 395 *Q.*—SRI K. KRISHNA RAO: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Administration be pleased to state whether clerks of panchayats are directed by the Government to be appointed by the officers of the District Employment Exchange; whether rules have been framed regarding qualifications, mode of selection, salaries, allowances and conditions of service of clerks in the panchayats; and if so, whether the Government will furnish this House with a copy of such rules?

THE HON. SRI N. SANKARA REDDI :—" The Government have not directed that clerks of panchayats should be appointed by the officers of the District Employment Exchange. Rules have been framed prescribing qualifications for clerks under panchayats. A copy [a] of these rules is laid on the table of the House. No rules have been framed regarding the salaries and allowances of clerks of panchayats. Their salaries and allowances are fixed by the Inspector of Municipal Councils and Local Boards. No separate rules have been issued regarding the conditions of service of clerks in the panchayats. The question of issuing rules in this regard is under consideration."

SRI K. KRISHNA RAO :—" Sir, I do not see any rules which the Hon. Minister has said, have been placed on the table of House, on my table at any rate."

THE HON. SRI N. SANKARA REDDI :—" The rules relating to qualifications are placed on the table of the House."

SRI N. MAHALINGAM :—" Will the Government consider the abolition of the Employment Exchanges in view of the fact that they are not serving much useful purpose?"

THE HON. SRI N. SANKARA REDDI :—" Sir, that is a department of the Government of India."

SRI P. VENKATASUBBAYYA :—" As the Government have prescribed qualifications necessary for ministerial servants who work in the panchayats, will the Government assure permanent employment for them?"

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[a] Printed as Appendix on page 1223 infra.